No. 3 is the father-in-law of Mr.V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.

(d) Works were entrusted on open tenders by the Government. Please see answer to sub-divisions (a) and (d) of question No. 287.

287. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following:—

(a) the estimate amount in respect of each of the hostel buildings at Anappara;

(b) the amount of reduction made from the estimate amount in respect of each, of each of the contractors;

(c) if no reduction was made in respect of any of the contractors what is the name or names of the contractors, what is his or their relation to the Chief Engineer and on what consideration no reduction was made?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) and (b) Vide statement attached. (*Appendix XXIII*).

(c) The tenders received for the works (block Nos. 2, 3 and 4) were at estimated and above rates. Government accepted the tender of the best men from among the contractors.

288. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer on his own initiative and without obtaining the sanction of the Diwan beforehand let out the contract for the four hostel buildings at Anappara and that the Diwan gracefully ratified subsequently the action of the Chief Engineer;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for this submissiveness of the Diwan to a departmental subordinate?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) No.

(b) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (a).

Raising of pay of the D. S. Ps.

289. Mr. C. L. George.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how often has the fact of the utter inadequacy of the pay of the D. S. Ps. been brought to the notice of the Government;

(b) has the Commissioner of Police submitted to the Government any scheme for the revision of pay of the D. S. Ps. and if so what;

(c) does the Government propose to take any steps to revise the pay of the D. S. Ps. and if so what and when;

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(d) has the Commissioner of Police recommended to the Government to invest the D. S. Ps. with additional powers and if so what are they ;

(e) does the Government propose to act on his recommendation and if so to what extent ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) More than once.

(b) Yes; it is not possible to furnish more information at this stage, the matter being under consideration only.

(c) Government are considering the proposal.

(d) No.

(e) The question does not arise in view of the answer to (d).

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—(b). Are we to take it that the recommendations of Heads of Departments are outside the purview of this Council ? Whether the Government has any special reason in not divulging the information ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The answer is there that at this stage it is not possible. When it is considered by the Government fully and orders are passed by the Government it will be divulged.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Am I to understand that the Commissioner of Police is nervous that if it is not accepted he will be offended ? This House has a right to know reason.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The Hon'ble Member is at liberty to understand the answer in his own fashion. This is the only answer the Government can give.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Am I to understand that the recommendations will not be divulged to this House before it is acted upon by the Diwan or the authorities concerned ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No, it is under correspondence, it will not be divulged.

Mr .George Chakyamuri.—(d). Whether the Commissioner has in view in making any recommendations in future ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It is under consideration.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—There was a statement by the Commissioner of Police in the Budget Session that there would be some delegation of powers to the D. S. Ps. What time will be taken for the recommendation of the Commissioner of Police for the delegation of the powers ? May I know whether the matter is still under the consideration of the Government in spite of the statement made in Karkadagam last?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Owing to pressure of their work, it is still under consideration.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know how long has ti been under consideration ?

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Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Since the matter was brought to notice.

Educational Survey.

290. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) on whose recommendation the Educational Survey was ordered by the Government;

(b) the date on which Government passed orders sanctioning the survey;

(c) the date on which the survey was started;

(d) the points investigated in the course of the survey;

(e) the officers who were carrying on the work of the survey;

(f) the name of the schools inspected for the purpose of the survey;

(g) conclusions, if any, arrived at as a result of the work done so far;

(h) the approximate time required to complete the work;

(i) the costs, if any, past and future, incurred and estimated respectively?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) The proposal originated from the Special Finance Committee and the necessity was urged by the representative of the Cochin Teachers' Association who waited on the Diwan.

(b) 3rd March 1931.

(c) 30th May 1931.

(d) Information is not called on the basis of a questionaire and so it is not answerable to being arranged numerically; however the following points have been considered generally;—

(1) Nature and extent of accommodation (2) Strength (3) the nearness of other schools (4) ease and means of communication (5) special needs of any backward community or area (6) cost of the building and equipments (7) kind and standard of instruction (8) nature and stability of the management in the case of aided schools.

(e) Director and Inspectors of the Southern and Northern Divisions.

(f) With a view to avoid special visits for the purpose of the survey and thus economise expenditure, whenever a school is visited, its place in the survey scheme is noted and the information entered separately. So no schools are visited merely for the purpose of the survey.

(g) It will be rash to form any conclusion before the work is completed.

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